

(b) Additional refining capacity is being created by expansion/debottlenecking of existing refineries. New refinery projects at Mangalore, Narimanam, Karnal and Numaligarh are at various stages of approval/implementation.

[English]

Promoting Tourism in South-Asian Countries

2988. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any plan has been prepared to encourage and promote travel and tourism in the South Asian countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether incentives are proposed to be given to domestic tourists in regard to their travel and stay abroad; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d). Promotion of tourism within the South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) has been identified as an area of cooperation. A Technical Committee on Tourism has been recently constituted by the SAARC member countries, which would inter-alia promote tourism within the SAARC countries. Concessional tariff is being offered by the national airlines of member countries to promote tourism within the SAARC region.

Release of advertisements to Magazines etc. by Public Undertakings

2989. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of public sector undertakings under his ministry have released advertisements to a number of magazines, newspapers and periodicals etc. on the eve of Pt. Nehru's Centenary Celebration during 1989-90;

(b) if so, the details of the advertisements released by each of the undertakings with particulars of advertising agency thereof;

(c) whether the amount spent on the advertisements of Pt. Nehru's Birth Centenary Celebrations by the undertakings has been from the sanctioned and approved 'advertising budget' of the concerned undertakings; and

(d) the total quantum of approved advertising budget of each of the undertakings during the last three years and the details of policy for the release of the advertisements?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Details are given in the attached statement-I

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details of approved advertising budget are given in the attached statement-II. The Public Sector Undertakings keep a panel of advertising agencies and the release of advertisements is need based and is guided by the marketing objectives.